

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An alarm management method comprising:
generating one or more alarms at one or more apparatuses to be managed;
transmitting alarm data associated with each alarm from each apparatus to an
alarm management apparatus, wherein the alarm data includes a date and time at
which the alarm was generated;
providing one or more types of weight coefficients for each alarm generated by
~~an apparatus to be managed;~~
multiplying the weight coefficient types to obtain the total weight coefficient for
each alarm;
multiplying, by the total weight coefficient, a "1", which represents a case count
for one generation of each alarm, and obtaining a weighted case count for each alarm;
and
adding the weighted case counts for individual alarms to prepare statistics for the
weighted number of alarm generation cases.

2. (Original) An alarm management method according to claim 1, wherein the
one or more weight coefficient types include a weight coefficient designated by a user
as an inherent value for each alarm type.

3. (Original) An alarm management method according to claim 1, wherein the one or more weight coefficient types include a weight coefficient designated by a user for each time an alarm is generated.

4. (Original) An alarm management method, according to claim 1, wherein the one or more weight coefficient types include a weight coefficient that is automatically determined based on a predetermined rule.

5. (Original) An alarm management method according to claim 4, wherein the automatically determined weight coefficient is determined in accordance with a period extending from the generation, in the apparatus, of a specific alarm to be managed until the specific alarm is canceled.

6. (Currently Amended) An alarm management method comprising:
generating one or more alarms at one or more apparatuses to be managed;
transmitting alarm data associated with each alarm from each apparatus to an
alarm management apparatus, wherein the alarm data includes a date and time at
which the alarm was generated;
transmitting apparatus data associated with each apparatus to the alarm
management apparatus, wherein the apparatus data represents the status of the
apparatus and correlates with correlating each alarm generated by [an] each apparatus
to be managed and apparatus data representing the status of the apparatus by
employing using [a] the date and time wherein the alarm was generated as a key;

preparing a trend graph for predetermined apparatus data included in the apparatus data obtained from the apparatus to be managed; and

displaying on the trend graph [a] the date and time whereat a predesignated alarm was generated based on the correlation.

7. (Currently Amended) An alarm management method comprising:

generating one or more alarms at one or more apparatuses to be managed;

transmitting alarm data associated with each alarm from each apparatus to an alarm management apparatus, wherein the alarm data includes a data and time at which the alarm was generated;

transmitting apparatus data associated with each apparatus to the alarm management apparatus, wherein the apparatus data represents the status of the apparatus and correlates with each alarm generated by each apparatus using the date and time wherein the alarm was generated as a key;

preparing statistics [only] for alarms ~~that were generated by an apparatus to be managed only~~ when ~~predetermined correlated~~ apparatus data ~~included in the apparatus data that are obtained from the apparatus and that represent the status of the apparatus,~~ have a predesignated value or are within a predesignated range.

8. (Currently Amended) An alarm management method according to claim 1, wherein the alarms are managed using alarm IDs or using alarm IDs and apparatus IDs for identifying the alarms.

9. (Currently Amended) An alarm management method according to claim 6, wherein the alarms are managed using alarm IDs or using alarm IDs and apparatus IDs for identifying the alarms.

10. (Currently Amended) An alarm management method according to claim 7, wherein the alarms are managed using alarm IDs or using alarm IDs and apparatus IDs for identifying the alarms.

11. (Currently Amended) An alarm management apparatus comprising:
a data collection device for collecting alarm data for alarms ~~generated by~~ from an apparatus ~~to be managed where the alarms are generated, wherein the alarm data~~ includes a date and time at which the alarm was generated;

a database device for storing the alarm data collected by the data collection device; and

an alarm statistic device for preparing alarm statistics using the alarm data stored by the database device, the alarm statistic device including,

a weight coefficient provision unit for providing one or more types of weight coefficients for each alarm,

a total weight coefficient calculation unit for multiplying the weight coefficients for each alarm to obtain a total weight coefficient,

a weighted case count calculation unit for multiplying, by the total weight coefficient, a "1" that represents a case count for one generation of each alarm, and for obtaining a weighted case count for each alarm, and

a statistics preparation unit for adding weighted case counts for individual alarms to obtain statistics for the weighted number of alarm generation cases.

12. (Original) An alarm management apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the alarm statistic device includes,

a weight coefficient setup unit for setting up, as one of the weight coefficients, a unique weight coefficient for each alarm type.

13. (Original) An alarm management apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the alarm statistic device includes:

a weight coefficient setup unit for setting up, as one of the weight coefficients, a weight coefficient for each time an alarm is generated.

14. (Original) An alarm management apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the alarm statistic device includes:

a weight coefficient determination unit for automatically determining, based on a predetermined rule, a weight coefficient as one of the weight coefficients.

15. (Original) An alarm management apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the weight coefficient determination unit determines a weight coefficient in accordance with a period extending from the generation, in the apparatus, of a specific alarm to be managed to the cancellation of the specific alarm.

16. (Currently Amended) An alarm management apparatus comprising:

a data collection device for collecting alarm data for alarms ~~generated by~~ from an apparatus to be managed where the alarms are generated, wherein the alarm data includes a date and time at which the alarm was generated;

a database device for storing the alarm data collected by the data collection device; and

an alarm statistic device for preparing alarm statistics using the alarm data stored by the database device, the alarm statistic device including,

a linking unit for employing, as a key, a date and a time whereat an alarm was generated and for correlating each alarm generated by the apparatus with apparatus data representing the status of the apparatus,

a trend graph preparation unit for preparing a trend graph for predetermined apparatus data included in the apparatus data, and

a display unit for displaying the trend graph prepared by the trend graph preparation unit, and for, based on the correlation, displaying on the trend graph a date and time whereat a predesignated alarm was generated.

17. (Currently Amended) An alarm management apparatus comprising:

a data collection device for collecting alarm data for alarms ~~generated by~~ from an apparatus to be managed where the alarms are generated, wherein the alarm data includes a date and time at which the alarm was generated;

a database device for storing the alarm data collected by the data collection device; and

an alarm statistic device for preparing alarm statistics using the alarm data stored by the database device, the alarm statistic device including,

a filtering unit for extracting, as statistical targets, only alarms that were generated by the apparatus when predetermined apparatus data, included in apparatus data, had a predesignated value or was within a predesignated range, and

a statistics preparation unit for preparing statistics for the alarms extracted by the filtering unit.

18. (Original) An alarm management apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the alarms are managed by alarm IDs for identifying the alarms.

19. (Original) An alarm management apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the alarms are managed by alarm IDs for identifying the alarms.

20. (Original) An alarm management apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the alarms are managed by alarm IDs for identifying the alarms.